

# Town of Ellington Planning Department



## PRESS RELEASE

**ELLINGTON** – The Ellington Planning and Zoning Commission is about to begin a review and update to the *Ellington Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)* and expects to complete the project in approximately 18 months. Planimetrics, an Avon based consulting firm, has recently been contracted to provide assistance with the POCD update and has also assisted in the development of a Build-Out Analysis completed in 2004 and an Open Space Plan nearing completion.

The Connecticut General Statutes require that municipalities prepare or amend a POCD at least every 10 years and the Ellington Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) last amended the plan in phases from 1997 through 1999. The POCD is primarily an advisory document and is intended to provide a framework of consistent decision making in conservation and development activities in town over the next ten years. Although the PZC is coordinating this project, public input is necessary to formulate an overall vision for the future of Ellington.

More specifically, the revised POCD will:

- Establish land use policies to guide residential and commercial development in town;
- Encourage economic development and reduce residential development;
- Protect natural, scenic, cultural resources, and promote quality of life for residents;
- Enhance and preserve the rural character and small town aesthetics;
- Establish zoning to promote development towards appropriate areas and away from sensitive areas;
- Create more comprehensive and flexible land use regulations to effectively manage growth in a responsible manner.

Subdivision and zoning regulations are the main tools that the Town uses to guide conservation and development practices and are derived from the POCD. Both sets of regulations will be reviewed and possibly amended following the adoption of the POCD. Currently, several corrections and minor modifications to the organization of the current zoning regulations are underway and will be subject to a public hearing in the near future.

The town is anticipating that a schedule of workshops and informational meetings will be finalized within the next few months. The public is encouraged to attend and offer their input into this important revision process.

For additional information on this press release, contact:

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